

# Sea & Sage Audubon – SJWS Census Report for Sept. 2014

**Census Date:** 9/5/14

**Census Time:** 7:15 am – 9:30 am

**Weather:** overcast & warm

**Birders who took part in the census were:** Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Lena Hayashi, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kappelmann, Nancy Kenyon, Vic Leipzig, Merri Levy, Eva Lydick, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Gail Richards, Barbara Sentovich, Sandy Smith, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

**Comments:** The San Diego Creek was still low so that large numbers of shorebirds could be seen foraging in the shallows. The morning started out overcast and rather dark, as though it was very early morning or late afternoon; fortunately for us, the sun did not come out until 9:30. A large number of Canada Geese flew overhead in small groups; we assume they went to some other area such as Mason Park to graze. The water in the ponds was very still. In both ponds E & D, a Sora was foraging along the water's edge rather actively, sometimes even leaping over vegetation that was in its way and scurrying into the bushes when something alarmed it. A Wilson's Snipe and a Killdeer posed like statues in the still water. The other Killdeers were in constant motion, flying overhead with loud cries. The water level at pond 2 was higher than normal and the island was completely overgrown with vegetation, making it difficult to see any birds on it. Two Least Bitterns were seen at Pond 1 and a total of twelve! Green Herons were seen in the Back 40 area, ponds A & C, the Riparian Area, and along the San Diego Creek. The Solitary Sandpiper gave us great views at pond D. It was a wonderful morning to be out birding!

## GEESE & DUCKS

145	Canada Geese
3	Wood Duck
35	Gadwall
144	Mallard
4	Cinnamon Teal
41	Northern Shoveler
1	Northern Pintail
10	Green-winged Teal
7	Ruddy Duck

## GREBES

4	Pied-billed Grebe
1	Eared Grebe
6	Western Grebe
5	Clark's Grebe

## CORMORANTS & PELICANS

16	American White Pelican
6	Brown Pelican
19	Double-crested Cormorant

## BITTERNS

2	<i>Least Bittern</i>
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## HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS

11	Great Blue Heron
16	Great Egret
19	Snowy Egret
12	Green Heron
9	Black-crowned Night-Heron
3	White-faced Ibis

## DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY

21	Turkey Vulture
2	Cooper's Hawk
1	Red-shouldered Hawk
1	Red-tailed Hawk

## RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS

1	Virginia Rail
2	Sora
3	Common Gallinule
19	American Coot

## PLOVERS

6	Semipalmated Plover
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38	Killdeer
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## STILTS & AVOCETS

30	Black-necked Stilt
7	American Avocet

## SANDPIPERS

3	Greater Yellowlegs
1	Lesser Yellowlegs
7	Spotted Sandpiper
1	<i>Solitary Sandpiper</i>
194	Western Sandpiper
21	Least Sandpiper
21	Long-billed Dowitcher
99	dowitcher's sp.
4	Wilson's Snipe

## GULLS

2	Western Gull
1	California Gull

## PIGEONS & DOVES

51	Mourning Dove
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## HUMMINGBIRDS

50	Anna's Hummingbird
13	Allen's Hummingbird
9	hummingbird sp.

## KINGFISHER

6	Belted Kingfisher
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## WOODPECKERS

5	Nuttall's Woodpecker
6	Downy Woodpecker

## FLYCATCHERS

28	Black Phoebe
1	Cassin's Kingbird

## SILKY FLYCATCHER

1	Phainopepla
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## VIREOS

6	Bell's Vireo
3	Hutton's Vireo

## CROWS & RAVENS

57	American Crow
1	Common Raven

## SWALLOWS

5	Cliff Swallow
24	Barn Swallow
17	swallow sp.

## BUSHTITS

148	Bushtit
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## WRENS

4	Bewick's Wren
2	House Wren
6	Marsh Wren

## WRENTITS

6	Wrentit
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## MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS

5	Northern Mockingbird
2	California Thrasher

## STARLINGS

28	European Starling
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## WARBLERS

8	Orange-crowned Warbler
1	Yellow Warbler
131	Common Yellowthroat

## TOWHEES & SPARROWS

35	Spotted Towhee
5	California Towhee
121	Song Sparrow
1	Brewer's Sparrow

## GROSBEAKS

1	Black-headed Grosbeak
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## BLACKBIRDS

62	Red-winged Blackbird
1	Great-tailed Grackle
18	Brown-headed Cowbird
2	Bullock's Oriole

## FINCHES

18	House Finch
16	Lesser Goldfinch

## EXOTIC SPECIES

2	Egyptian Goose
5	Northern Red Bishop
1	Yellow-crowned Bishop
141	Scaley-breasted Munia